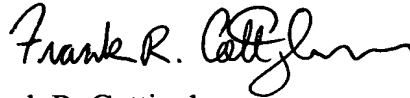


that, if Group III is elected, a species election is also required, but that no species election is set out in the Restriction Requirement. The Examiner confirmed that no species election was intended for Group III and that the statement in the Restriction Requirement regarding a species election was in error.

Consideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank R. Cottingham", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Frank R. Cottingham  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 50,437

Date: JUN. 29, 2006

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